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New-York Daily Tribune.

FOUNDED BY HORACE GREELEY.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 11, 1877.

THE NEWS THIS MORNING.

Foreign.-The Council of Ministers deliberated at Constantinople yesterday on the answer to the Conference. ____ The Sucz Canal Company ratified the convention with the maritime powers. Count Rampon, a Conservative Republican, was elected one of the Vice-Presidents in the French Senate.

Domestic.-The New-York Legislative committees were announced; they give general satisfaction. === The New-Hampshire Republicans nominated Benjamin F. Prescott as Governor. - President Grant has again declined to recognize either Government of Louisiana at present; the Republican Legissetts will be between Mr. Boutwell and Prof. Soelve. = It is thought that Judge Trumbull will be sent to the Senate from Illinois. = Henry W. Blair has been renominated to Congress by the Republicans of the HIId New-Hampshire District.

CONGRESS.-Senator Boutwell presented a petition from the Boston Board of Trade in reference to remonetizing silver. The report of the Congressional Librarian was presented. The bill authorizing the building of a bridge over the Ohio River from Cincinnati to Covington was defeated in the House, and the silver question was debated at length but without result.

CITY AND SUBURBAN.-Frederick May has not returned to the city, and Mr. Bennett is believed to be in concealment. Dr. Charles Phelps was committed for contempt in refusing to answer questions concerning the duel. - William H. Vanderbilt stated that the Commodore had intrusted him with sums for old friends and employés and for the building of a home for disabled railway men. Another stolen mail bag, containing checks, was re covered. ____ Dissatisfied ice men threatened disturbance along the Hudson River. - Gold, 106, 10578, 10618. Gold value of the legal-tender dollar at the close, 94210 cents. Stocks irregular and feverish, closing steady.

THE WEATHER.-THE TRIBUNE'S local observa tions indicate a clear or partly clouded sky and light wind. Thermometer yesterday, 21°, 26°, 24°.

There are still some doubts about the duel, it being yet uncertain whether Mr. May is wounded. The Grand Jury is taking active steps in the matter, and of course both the principals are keeping themselves out of the

The friends of the Chevalier De Luca certainly make clean work, in their card elsewhere, of the charge that the compliments with which he was recently welcomed back to his post of duty were not fully approved by the better class of his countrymen in this city.

There is a method in the Blaine enthusiasm of the Maine Republicans. From the speeches made at the recent caucus, and given elsewhere, it will be seen that two at least of the five speakers declared him their choice for the next Presidential nomination. Mr. Blaine seems to be a man that men tie to.

The election of Count Rampon, a Conservative Republican, as one of the Vice-Presidents of the French Senate, indicates that the Senators are receding from their reactionary course. The time-serving number who hold the balance of power are evidently overawed by the strength of the present administration.

The mercantile world and the Suez Canal both gain by the settlement which was ratified yesterday. Shippers will profit by the reduction in tonnage dues and the expenditure of \$200,000 annually for the improvement of the canal. On its part the company escapes from the long standing difficulty with the maritime powers whose good will is essen-

tial to its prosperity. How the grounds and buildings at Phila-

learned from an interesting letter on another page. Also what is already done in the way of preparation for the Permanent Exhibition, and what is yet to be done. This will be of such magnitude, if it should prove successful, as to dwarf all previous attempts at continuous fairs, and give Philadelphia nearly the same prominence as did the larger exhibition of which this seems to be the legitimate heir. While the success of the project is by no means assured, it is to have a long and fair trial before being abandoned.

The report that Gen. Ignatieff, the Russian Minister, is disposed to offer easier terms to the Turks must be regarded with doubt. At this stage in the proceedings of the Conference Rassia cannot betray the Slave cause without causing grave discontent at home and incurring the hostility of the insurgents in the Turkish provinces. Gen. Ignatieff would forego a great deal to induce Turkey to place herself under Russian protection, but it is too late for him to barter the "guarantees" demanded by the Conference for that privilege. Nor can the members of the Conference afford to incur the decision of Europe by even considering a bargain of that character.

It is almost too much to hope for that the Democrats of Illinois may send Lyman Trumbull back to his old seat in the Senate. If a Democrat is to go, it would be hard to find a man whom the people at large would more heartily welcome. Mr. Trumbull is a man of excellent ability and unquestioned honor. When his opinions are a little too narrow, they are cramped by his conscience. On all the questions of the war he is safe and sound, and no one doubts that he finds himself in his present political company only because his honest convictions carried him there. If the State of Abraham Lincoln is to give a Democratic vote in the Senate, let Mr. Trumbull cast it.

The suggestion Mr. Ruggles makes for a monetary conterence to settle the ratio of silver to gold in the future coinage of the world, is a good point of departure. Nearly every position taken by any prominent authority on the silver question has been assailed by some other authority equally prominent, and a number of our most careful students of finance have changed their views two or three times during the few months' discussion we have already had. The one thing which has been clear is that it is best to make haste very slowly in taking any new steps on the subject; and the thing next in clearness is that this proposition for a monetary conference is a wise one, no matter what view of the silver question may ultimately prevail. If silver is to be restored at all, it should only be upon a basis on which the leading nations of the world can agree. The very fact of such agreement will give again to silver the stability in value and the steady demand which are now both lacking.

Mr. Boutwell has deserved well of his country, whatever the issue of the contest in Massachusetts may be, by staying in Washington and doing his duty as a law-maker. The Senator who goes home to button-hole his Legislature, dines and wines it, and takes fraternal nips of its tobacco, and perhaps indulges in much more culpable methods of influence, has grown to be altogether too frequent a figure at State capitals of late. It is always a question, of course, under a republican government, where dignity can afford to begin. We all know how much there is of it in the neighborhood of State Legislatures, and where Congressmen most do congregate who are anxious for a reëlection. Certainly it is speaking within bounds to say that it might safely begin in the Senate of the United States, and Mr. Boutweil's example may well be commended to some of his colleagues. The question of reelecting him is quite another thing, lature elected Gov. Kellogg to the United States and must rest on its merits, which are dis Senate. == The Senatorial contest in Massachu- cussed in an interesting Boston letter printed on another page. A worse man than Mr. Boutwell, and a better man, might easily be

> Commodore Vanderbilt had a mind of his own about pretty much everything, including, as it seems now, the way to make charitable and personal bequests. Instead of embodying them in his will, as the manner of men is, he committed his requests to his son, who holds them secret and will execute them in strict accordance with the dead man's desires. There are other gifts also to relatives and friends made outright before his death, no record of which has been kept, and there is also provision for an asylum to shelter brokendown employés of the Vanderbilt roads, and perhaps eventually to all disabled railroad men. These bequests will show that the late Commodore was not indifferent to the welfare of his fellow-beings, as the provisions of his will had perhaps led many to believe; and his unostentations method of making his bequests will do still more to commend his memory to more tender treatment. In view of the fact that the accumulation and perpetuation of a vast property was the one grand passion of his life, the community has no reason to be surprised that he did not do more for public objects, and perhaps some reason to be grateful that his friends and dependents, at least, were not forgotten.

> > "HISTORY" AND "LIGHTNING."

Mankind has accepted these two things as general rules: That "history does not repeat itself," and "lightning does not strike twice "in a place." Of course there are exceptions. and they may be taken as proving the rules. They certainly do not prevent a general acceptation of the truth of the proverbs. It begins to look a little as though we were about to witness something like an exception in the present course of political events. History may not be about to repeat itself in terms, and fightning may not be on the point of striking in the same place that it did sixteen years ago, but we submit that the record of current events is amazingly like what the newspapers were publishing in the Winter of 1860-1, and that the lightning is playing very fitfully if not luminously around the same old political party that was shivered all to pieces by it about the same time. There was a great deal of energetic talk about that time, as many of our readers will remember, concerning the Constitution, and the rights guaranteed by it to anybody who desired to destroy it, and many distinguished persons made eloquent addresses to their fellow-citizens in which they trilled the r's in "The G-r-r-reat Democr-r-atic Par-r-ty ' in a way that fairly cardled the blood of the hearer, and there were demonstrations of various sorts in various places at which fluent orators gave the world to understand that the Democratic party was bound to have its own way, whether it was in the majority or minority. There was a good deal of such loose and promiscuous oratory indulged in by Northern

according to all the reports, to have given rein to on the 8th of the present month. The Democratic party of the North was going to "rise up" then, just as it is talking about doing now, and the Southern Democrats were given to understand that they could go right on with their revolution, and that if the Federal Government interfered the Northern Democracy would give it all it could attend to.

It is quite remarkable how like the talk of these people now is to that of the same impassioned orators sixteen years ago. The South believed them then. Several things have happened since, and it is quite possible that the South has learned to take the utterances of their Northern allies with a grain of salt. Sixteen years ago last November, Mr. Lawrence M. Keitt, addressing a public meeting in Charleston, S. C., said: "Let me tell "you, there are a million of Democrats in the "North, who, when the Black Republicans at-"tempt to march upon the South, will be "found a wall of fire in the front." Mr. Keitt got his impressions from such Democrats as are now engaged in "arousing the people." He lived long enough to find out his mistake. Ex-Gov. Price of New-Jersey in the Spring of 1861 said his State "would go with the South 'from every wise, prudential, and patriotic "reason," and he was confident that l'ennsylvania and New-York would "choose also to east their lot with the South." A Democratic meeting in Philadelphia sixteen years ago this month adopted a resolution to the effect that the withdrawal of the Southern States released Pennsylvania from her bonds, and "would authorize and require her citizens, through a convention to "be assembled for that purpose, to determine "with whom her lot should be cast-whether " with the North and the East, whose fanati-"cism has precipitated this misery upon us, or "with our brethren of the South, whose "wrongs we feel as our own, or whether Pennsylvania should stand by herself as a distinct community." Ex-President Franklin Pierce, in January, 1860, wrote Jefferson Davis that in case of dissolution of the Union the fighting "will be within our own borders " and in our own streets," between two classes of Northern citizens. Senator Eaton of Connecticut gave out with great distinctness and emphasis about that time that the Democrats of his State would interpose between the 'assassina" of Massachusetts and "our brethren of the South," should they attempt to march across Connecticut for the invasion of the Southern States. And the list of such proceedings and such speeches might be prolonged indefinitely. Wheever recalls that period will remember that the air was full of just such large and loud talk as we have quoted, and as the Ohio and Indiana Democrats have been treating us to a stale repe-

tition of. So far history seems on the edge of an encore. So far lightnings-are they real thunderbolts, or only "heat lightning," or still less, sheet iron imitations?-seem playing round the same old spot. But the Southern Democrats are not so eager now nor yet so trustful of the ability of their allies to carry out their contracts. They are shy; and well they may be. They've heard just this sort of talk before, and believed in it. They know now pretty nearly how much it means. It depends on them whether history shall repeat itself and lightning strike twice in the same place. They are wise to stand aloof and shake their heads. They have been very sadly fooled by these folks once. It is too soon to step into

MR. WATTERSON'S HUNDRED THOUSAND. Mr. Watterson assured the mass meeting at the national capital on Monday that one hundred thousand (unarmed) Democrats would repair to Washington on the 14th of February to exercise in person the right of petition to Congress guaranteed them by the Constitution. The meeting at Columbus passed a resolution in favor of a "National Democratic 'Convention" at Washington about the same time. Mr. Voorhees at Indianapolis presented a resolution, which the meeting adopted with great applause, for the appointment of a Committee of Public Safety to consider, among other things, whether "the right of petition" should be exercised in writing or in person. There is no doubt that the Democrats meditate a grand demonstration at the doors of the Capitol on the day appointed for the counting of the votes; and although most of them would probably deny with indignation any purpose to intimidate Congress, they evidently rely a great deal upon the moral effect of their presence in overwhelming numbers.

The Constitution declares that Congress shall make no law abridging the right of the people peaceably to assemble and petition the Government for redress of grievances. Any interference either by Congress or the Executive with the fullest right of petition would be contrary to the spirit of our institutions. Manifestly, however, an attempt to overawe or otherwise unduly influence Congress in the performance of one of its quasi-judicial functions is not an exercise of the right of petition; and if an assemblage while pretending to present a petition becomes dangerous to the public peace or interferes with the free action of Congress, the Executive may properly disperse it. We do not think any contingency is likely to arise that will call for such action; but Gen. Grant is no doubt prepared to act promptly in case of need.

The practice of petitioning the Government in person is always dangerous when political excitement runs high. It was in this ill-judged exercise of a constitutional right that the Gordon riots in London began in 1780. On that occasion one hundred thousand persons assembled to petition Parliament against the bill for the relief of the Roman Catholics, and they did not disperse till London had been for six days in the possession of a brutal mob, and four or five hundred persons had lost their lives. During the agitation of the Parliamentary Reform bill in 1831 a body of sixty thousand persons marched to St. James's Palace to present a personal petition to the King; and although they readily obtained what they demanded, the sequel of their demonstration was a disgraceful Wellington's mansion were demolshed, the Duke of Cumberland was dragged from his horse and with difficulty rescued by the police, and several other obnoxious persons were brutally assaulted. The tendency of all such gatherings is to degenerate into mobs. The utmost moderation and good sense on the part of the leaders cannot prevent the excesses of the hot-headed and evil-disposed who mingle with all popular movements and often get the mastery over them. Democratic politicians will probably feel, on

reflection, that they cannot afford to risk a tumult or even to expose themselves to the misconceptions and misrepresentations which the appearance of Mr. Watterson's hundred thousand at the doors of Congress would certainly delphia look two months after the fair may be Democrats, as the same sort of people seem, occasion. They cannot afford to purchase the

inauguration of Gov. Tilden at the cost of disturbance or constructive violence, any more than the Republicans can afford to obtain the inauguration of Gov. Hayes by fraud. No matter who may take possession of the White House in March, the lasting and substantial victory in the present contest will be for the party which displays the greater respect for the laws and the Constitution and the greater regard for justice and good order.

THE ASSEMBLY COMMITTEES.

The lobby will look with dismay upon the list of Speaker Sloan's committees. There has been no cleaner list in Albany for many a year-no list for years back that the trail of the striker did not cross. Gen. Husted gets the place to which parliamentary courtesy entitled him, and which Mr. Alvord doubtless tried hard to buy with votes. Several chairmanships are continued from the last Assembly, but where there has seemed to be good reason for a change, Mr. Sloan has not lacked the courage to make it nor the discretion to make it to good advantage. Judge Hogeboom, Mr. Fish, and Mr. Strahan are kept in the places in which they did good service last year, and the make-up of all of these committees, including the Ways and Means, is in the interest of clean and honest legislation. The Committees on General Laws, Cities, and Judiciary were, however, sure to be sound from the start. It was about another three that greater interest has been excited-Railroads, Insurance, and Commerce and Navigation. These have been in times past the spots where the strikers have swarmed. This year, if they swarm at all, it must be on the outside. If a sound legislative record is any guarantee, each of these committees is now headed by a man of sterling integrity. Mr. Gilbert of Franklin, Mr. Graham of Orange, and Mr. Webb of Dutchess are men whose characters have been and are likely to be beyond question. Of the men who stand behind them in their respective committees we do not know so much, but we feel assured that Mr. Sloan has chosen them with conscientious care. Mr. Baker's appointment as chairman of the Committee on Canals may excite some criticism, but his friends are so earnest in the belief that in the past he has been unjustly treated, that no one will deny him the opportunity to prove his title to a better reputation.

We congratulate the Speaker on his skillful and honorable discharge of a perplexing duty. He has fulfilled at the start all the promises THE TRIBUNE ever made for him. The new departure in New-York Republicanism begins

MR. O'BRIEN OBJECTS. There was certainly no barm in the little

resolution offered by Mr. White of Kentucky in the House of Representatives on Tuesday last. The gentleman merely wanted the House formally to declare that any attempt to prejudice and excite the public mind on the Presidential question in advance of a decision by the authority which the Constitution provides is "unwise, unpatriotic, and full of danger." And so it is. Mr. White likewise wished the House to resolve that it is the duty of all good citizens peacefully and faithfully to abide by the results reached in accordance with the Constitution. To the introduction of these wholesome and seasonable resolutions Mr. O'Brien objected. We are therefore led to believe that in his opinion it is wise, patriotic, and safe to prejudice and excite the public mind in advance as aforesaid, and that it would not be the duty of all good citizens to acquiesce in a legal and constitutional result. If this were Mr. O'Brien's private, exclusive, and personal opinion, we might charitably set it down to that love of a fight which, both here and in the Emerald Isle, seems to be concenital not only with the O'Briens, but with the O'Shaughnesseys and all the other O's. Unfortunately, there is reason to believe bridge was well built, of good design, of sound that the honorable gentleman, in objecting to material, carefully tested and afterward inat least a portion of his party. Now, if the Democrats who do not think that Mr. Tilden will have a right to take possession of the Government vi et armis on the 4th of March next will be good enough publicly to announce their opinion, we shall then know a little better at least how many insurrectionary firebrands and desperate adventurers there

really are in the organization. There may be nothing importantly serious about what Mr. O'Brien may or may not do; but when Democrats, so many of them, are talking belligerently, and when Democratic editors, so many of them, are writing martially, and when Eighth of January meetings, so many of them, are resolving so combatively, we want very much to know why some Democrat of brains, of honor, of patriotism, and of prudence does not utter a protest publicly against the folly of his weaker or less scrupulous associates. Where is Charles Francis Adams, låtest born in the faith, yet a man of long party experience, and one who would be listened to ? If Gov. Tilden, on account of the delicacy of his situation, cannot speak, why, we beg permission to ask, does he not request his friend Mr. Adams to speak for him? Certainly between them both they might prevent Mr. O'Brien from again objecting should anybody offer another pacific resolution in the House of Representatives.

LIGHT BREAKING IN.

The Democrats begin to see the point. For nearly two months THE TRIBUNE has been warning them that their best, and indeed their only chance of success in the Presidential dispute, was in an appeal to the more candid and independent members of the Senate. We pointed out that, however men might dispute about unsettled questions as to the proper mode of counting the votes, one thing was certain, that nobody could be President of the United States, even to the extent of forming a cabinet or appointing a postmaster, who was not recognized by the Senate as President. This important and significant feature of the Constitution the intemperate Democrats tried to ignore; but in every speculation and at every step of every plan it was forced upon their riot, in which the windows of the Duke of attention. Again, we pointed out that, if the House should insist upon the extreme Democratic claim that either house could exclude an electoral vote, it would fotlow that the Senate might also exclude, or, if it pleased, debate without excluding until after March 4. In the end, whatever theory be adopted, the President of the Scuate would then be called upon, at least temporarily, to fill the Executive station. For a long time the Democrats were deaf to all reason. They talked wildly of their rights and of blood, and "wah" and "goah," and made themselves slightly offensive and altogether ridiculous. Even to the worst of them, sober second thought may come, it seems. For they now begin calmly to discuss whether nine Senators can be found

isiana. It is the chronic misfortune of the Democratic party that it is continually trying to make water run up hill, to drive a wedge butt foremost, and to perform other unnecessary impossibilities. A few grains of common sense would have prevented all the antagonism between the Senate and the House which some statesmen have studiously fostered.

There are some independent members of the Senate; men who have, or fancy that they have, a future; men who are not slavishly dependent upon a party convention held every two years; men whose political existence does not necessarily cease if, on any question of public importance, they rise above party. That very few such men can get into the House, or stay there if they get in, is the misfortune in the constitution of that body. Hence, only the blindest and most rabid partisan would have proposed that the more permanent and independent body should have no voice, while the House alone, creature of ephemeral passions dead and buried two years ago, should have all power to decide whether an election by the House had become necessary. The Senate, moreover, could name its President. Its President, if sustained by that body, could count the votes, and there was no power to stop him. On the whole, it was silly in the Democrats to insist that the more independent and candid men who hold the balance of power in the Senate were knaves, who could not be trusted or reached by reason.

Perhaps it is better to see late in life than never to see at all. Constitutional blindness must be very tiresome. Very late indeed, but still not quite too late, some Democrats perceive that the right thing to do was and is to throw the grave responsibility wholly upon the Senators. Then appeal to their reason or sense of justice becomes possible. The Irishman who had a fondness for "discussion wid sthicks " never deluded himself with the notion that the brandishing of a club helped to enlighten the mind or soften the temper of an opponent; and all the ranting and raving, the bullying meetings, the incendiary speeches, the brandishing of revolutionary theories and threats, have not materially helped to prepare Senators to consider the matter with calmness and impartiality. And yet, possibly, it is not too late. Were it possible suddenly to bottle up all the Democratic thunder, and to cork up all the inflamed orators, and to put ice on the heads of all the bloody editors of that party, it is at least possible that some Senators might approach discussion in a spirit not adverse to Democratic hopes. Whether the bottling and corking and refrigerating can still be performed is not clear.

Democracy has nearly thrown away its only chance. Unless certain Senators choose to oppose the counting of the votes officially returned in Louisiana or Florida, Gov. Hayes will become President as surely as the sun rises on the 4th of March. Possibly strong conviction, strong proof, or personal jealousy or pique, may yet influence some Senators-for there is some human nature, of the better and of the worse sort, even in the Senate-but the Democrats thus far have done their best to make such a result improbable. And it is the eleventh hour. If they mean to do better, the time is short. The "lamp holds out to "burn," but the wick is nearly gone.

BRIDGES NEEDING INSPECTION. Compliments to the Lake Shore Railroad seem just now out of place. At any other time people might have heard its praises sounded with patience. At present the opening sentences of Col. Carrington's letter, which we printed yesterday, will fall on unwilling ears. If it be true that there is "no "railroad in America built or conducted "under more skillful care," it follows that there is as great or greater probability of being flung into an abyss and there being burned to death in traveling on any other railroad in the country. If the fatal such resolutions, expressed the sentiments of spected at intervals, why did it break? The fact of the disaster is prima facie evidence that the bridge was defective. That evidence can only be set aside by showing that the train or part of it was off the track. Of course if that was the case it can be said with some show of justice that the bridge broke down because it was subjected to a strain which it was not built to meet; and that no trestle or truss bridge can be built to endure such a strain. But as yet there is only meager testimony indicating that the train was off the track. Such testimony cannot be supplemented by the inner consciousness of the friends of the road or their firm conviction that the work on the road is generally well done.

The question is as to the condition of this particular bridge just before it broke. On this point Col. Carrington's letter offered a capital suggestion. He has found that in all that class of iron structures there is a likelihood that the vertical rods will slowly but certainly slip out of the nuts with which they are screwed, being pulled down gradually by the weight. His statement that the screw is simply an inclined plane will be recognized as a familiar truth by all students of mechanics. But the release of one or two rods would not be sufficient to cause the failure of the bridge. Col. Carrington also suggested that the rods are liable to become weakened by a change of their interior structure-by partial crystallization. His observations on this point are noteworthy; the instances he gives are striking. It is not quite clear whether this process of crystallization takes place in the best of iron. That is a point on which very exact information is greatly needed. If the experiments had been continued which were begun by the United States Commission that was appointed to test iron and steel, there would now be something definite known on that point, and also respecting the effect of low temperatures on iron. Unfortunately the failure of the appropriation checked those experiments at their most promising stage.

As we have before said, proof will have to be brought concerning the quality of the iron used in the Ashtabula bridge. Portions of it should now be subjected to careful test. The whole history of that iron must be ascertained. Till the question as to its quality is squarely answered, other speculations as to the cause of breakage are somewhat premature. But as to all the causes which Col. Carrington lucidly presented, excepting only the possibility that the train was off the track, they point conclusively to this inference: that a thorough, frequent examination of the bridge at regular intervals would have revealed its weakness and led to its repair. It follows that there is no safety in iron bridges unless they are subjected to examination at regular and not very distant intervals, and that the quality of the iron as well as the condition of its fastenings must then be tested. Col. Carrington deserves thanks for pointing out this absolute necessity. Now: were such periodical examinations made on that railroad than which no other in Amerwho will vote to throw out the vote of Lou- ica is "conducted with more skillful care ?"

When was the bridge at Ashtabula last exam. ined thus ?

The Atlantic Monthly for February will offer what will probably prove the most thorough summary of Palmetto State politics that has lately been given to the country. It is headed "The Political Condition of South Carolina. By a South Carolinian." The anthor withholds his name for reasons which the prevalent ostracism and intimidation at the South make obvious. But if he avowed himself, there might be a question as to which party should do the ostracising, for the article is strictly impartial, and metes out sentence to wrong-doers on both sides. The writer holds that the negro is no more fit for government " than a crowd of Irish roughs picked up pro miscuously in the streets of a Northern city;" but he points out the strong love of liberty, the genius for intrigue, and the captious and obstinate political independence of the blacks toward even their own leaders. He represents the whites, whom he knows thoroughly through kinship and association, as do sirous of reënslaving the negroes; but owing to the dangers of this, from the negro himself, they will probably confine themselves to statutes disfranchising as many as may be of the blacks, on one ground and another, as has already been done in Georgia. This contributor's account of the recent campaign entirely supports those published at the time in THE TRIBUNE, which impressed some of our readers as prejudiced and unfair.

PERSONAL.

Mr. John Taylor Johnston paid just 2,000 guineas for the "Slave Ship" and lost, therefore, about \$1,000 on his purchase.

Mr. Frederick May, Mr. Bennett's antago nist, is romantically described by a writer in The Concisnati Commercial as "a man of superb physique, and as handsome as Apollo."

Dr. Petermann, the distinguished geogra-

pher, is now in London consulting with the promoters of a new Arctic expedition. It is to be a private undertaking, set on foot by the united yacht clubs of the King That Mr. William Winter "has got to spelling his name William" is a subject of "gladness"

Boston Transcript. This seems rather curious, as Mr. Winter never by any chance spelled his name any other The Hop. E. R. Hoar wrote to the Williams Alumni, at their dinner in Boston on Monday night; · I have a very great regard for Williams College, and re

gard it as one of the frontier posts of civilization against New-York." Gov. Haves has been requested to sit for his bust by divers Ohio gentlemen—the Hon. John M. Millskin, the Hon. Wm. White, and others; and Gov. Hayes says generously that he will do so, and "esteem it as

The Rev. H. R. Haweis, the clever English elergyman and writer, says of Mr. Joseph Jefferson's Rip Van Winkle: "I venture to say that, among all the temperance lecturers of the day, Mr. Jefferson has been a more elequent preacher of sooriety than any." Chief-Justice Waite's horses ran away in

Washington the other day, with Chief-Justice Waite's

carriage, in which sat Mrs. and Miss Waite. But Major Hess of the army appeared and bravely rescued the two ladies, receiving many bruises in the doing of this excel-lent deed. Judge Mackey of South Carolina wears a gown in court in the English fashion, and Mr. Redfield of The Cincinnati Commercial has been told that the Judge, n the rural districts, has the sheriff, with a drawn sword

to escort him back and forth from the court-house to his hotel, thus strongly impressing the natives. Count Beust, the Austro-Hungarian Embassador at London, composed a waitz, "Le Retour des Indes," to express his tremendous delight over the safe return of the Prince of Wales from India. It is about to be published, and the proceeds of the sale will be devoted to the relief of Hungariaes in distress in London.

Mr. Tilden never read any of the ugly things said about him, said Mrs. Pelton to a reporter of The Philadelphia Times. "He is so different from what his enemies think him. He is as tender-hearted as a woman, and this was the hardest of all his duty," she declared, referring to the necessity of snubbing the army of besiegers who used to follow him about, begging for the release of relatives from Sing Sing. The correspondent pleasantly asserts that Mr. Tilden is as gallant as Sir Roger de Coverley.

Master Richard Wagner shook his head and answered rather sadly, "I am too old for that," when & correspondent of The Philadelphia Telegraph told him correspondent of The Philadelphia Telegraph told him that he should come to America. Saivin's wife sent him not long ago a basket of flowers, a bed of white blossoms on which were laid five lines of score in the shape of five blades of grass, with the treble key picked out in violets. The two opening bars of the kilduduspher's song were narked on the lines by pink blossoms. When the composer goes about viewing Italian sights he takes no other cicerone than his little inhalted son, Siegfried, who consequently diligently studies Baedeker.

When Mr. James Gordon Bennett was secluded at the Continental Hotel in Philadelphia on Ties day, the reporters gathered about like locusts, but their eyes being like Mr. Sam Weller's, not possessed of enornous magnifying power, they did not see hin evening some of them organized a meeting, and solemnly resolved that whereas James Gordon Bennett, a fellow-newspaperman, had put himself into a position in which it became necessary for him to be interviewed, therefore that the said Bennett be and is hereby called upon to salomit himself to this important process. The resolutions, duly engrossed and signed, were sent up to Mr. Bennett, who calmly answered, "That's all right," and paid no more attention to them.

Mr. Vanderbilt once gave Elder Lomas of the Shaker Community a check for \$100 to buy a wooden leg for a young man who was sadly injured on the Cen-tral Railroad. "Then," says Elder Lomas, "he told ma of his first visit to the Shakers, about the year 1812. He had brought a sloop-load of meions to Albany, and, after dispatching peddlers south and east, started himself with one horse and wagon with melons to Schenectady. Arriving at the Shaker's, he fed his horse and took dinner himself. After dinner he sold to our people a large number of melons, and the old man's eyes twinkied exceedingly when he said: 'I never saw such people; ther made me ashamed; they paid me well for my melons, but would not let me pay for my dinner nor horse-feed! I have never forgotten it, and hoped some day to get even with them.' And from this circumstance of 65 years since I may congratulate myself that I was not considered impertinent, but made most happily at home, and got my pertinent, but made most happiny at home, and got my check. After procuring the artificial limb, which cost 886, I wrote the Commodore, asking what disposition to make of the balance. The answer still manifested a disposition of getting even by replying: 'It is at your disposition; the interest on two dinners would ere this layer amounted to that, saying nothing about the principal.'"

COLUMBUS, Ohio, Jan. 10 .- The Hon. Wm. A. Wheeler arrived here to-day, and met Gov. Hayes at dinner this evening.

CHARLESTON, S. C., Jan. 10 .- The Russian Minister left here to-night for Washington, and the Russian corvette Bogalyn sailed for Hampton Rossis.

POLITICAL NOTES.

The soul of the average Democrat would be delighted with a war on the plan of the last great duelplenty of talk and no blood. The Democrats have won and lost Florida again. On Tuesday they announced that the House

Committee on Fiorida would agree in favor of Tilden On Wednesday they were gazing on the fragments of another exploded claim. Word comes from Kansas that Mr. S. C. Pomeroy, better known as "Subsidy Pom," has a good

chance for being sent to the Senate again. That we be a most unwelcome resurrection. It is doubtful if it is possible, even if the ex-Senator goes so far as to estab-lish another bank to insure his success. The latest "conspiracy" unearthed is the

most tremendous yet. An untrused lunatic, who sends out news from Washington in a sort of bureau arrangement for a score or more of Democratic papers. declares that Grant's purpose is to rain the Republic, in order that he may go down in history as the last Ameri-can President! The canvass for the United States District-

Attorneyship for this city continues lively in Washington. Mr. Paddock, Judge Dittenhoefer, Gen. Joseph Jackson, and Mr. William G. Choate are the mest promi-nent candidates, with Judge Dittenheefer probably ahead. The community will welcome the change from the present incumbent to any one of them. Gov. Tilden says he has no fear of Presi-

dential burdens, though he does not say that he thinks he is in danger of having any placed upon him. When a correspondent of The Philadelphia Times asked him if he did not shrink from the responsibility of governing great country, he replied : "No, it doesn't worry me. am saving strength. I shall make it my aim to do great thing, and put the smaller burdens on those bees fitted for them. This Presidential election is like a great battle, and the victory can only be gained by the proper accumulation and concentration of forces-like Austor-litz, where all depended on the planting of the artillery. Whatever I have done in the world I have accomplished